

## MIDWEST REGION

### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON ENVIRONMENTAL STREAMLINING

The undersigned agencies agree to work cooperatively to carry out the provisions of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21). This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets forth the goal, guiding principles, and strategies for interagency coordination of the Federal-aid transportation planning and project development processes, consistent with TEA-21, the National Environmental Policy Act, and other applicable environmental statutes, and Executive Orders.

This MOU is based on the Environmental Streamlining National Memorandum of Understanding and provides a framework for future interagency streamlining agreements or project level agreements within the states.

Nothing in this MOU affects the statutorily prescribed duties and obligations of any party to the MOU or any party's responsibility or ability to discharge fully such duties and obligations under all applicable laws and regulations.

#### PRINCIPLES

It is in the public interest that environmentally sound, cost-effective transportation plans and projects be developed in a timely way.

To fulfill this interest, the undersigned stakeholder agencies agree:

- ☐ To collaborate in a spirit of mutual trust;
- ☐ To fully consider the roles and responsibilities of each party to this Memorandum of Understanding;
- ☐ To encourage an open exchange of ideas, priorities, and information;
- ☐ To commit to constructive resolution of disagreements; and
- ☐ To use performance measures, benchmarks, and goals to achieve continuous program improvement.

#### GOAL

The goal of Section 1309 of TEA-21 and of this MOU is reduction of project development times while fully meeting our responsibility to protect the environment.

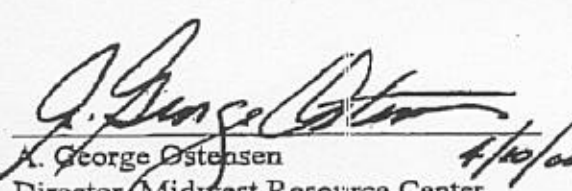
**MIDWEST REGION  
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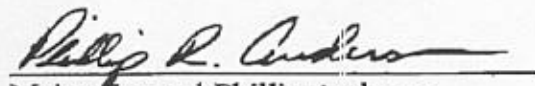
To achieve this goal, the undersigned jointly agree to the following strategies:

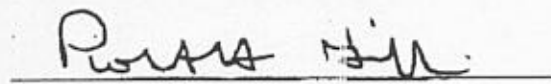
**STRATEGIES**

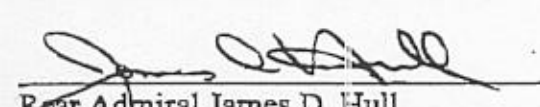
- To assure, cooperatively with project sponsors, compliance with all applicable environmental laws, regulations, and policies while reducing the time required to develop projects.
- To support appropriate changes in policies or rules to reduce economic and environmental costs and to seek, share, and build upon successful streamlining practices, creative solutions, and innovative methods, e.g., programmatic agreements, concurrent reviews, regional mitigation banks etc.
- To explore creative, cooperative and innovative opportunities among other signature agencies to complement their programs, facilitate their goals, and implement their plans.
- To share plans and project proposals to assure the availability of adequate information and to provide timely, constructive, value added comments and input to one another's plans and proposals as appropriate.
- To encourage the participation of all stakeholders, including nontraditional stakeholders, throughout the transportation planning and project development processes.
- To continue an interagency dialogue on land use, growth, and transportation relationships to identify opportunities for environmental protection and community enhancement offered by TEA-21 and other initiatives.
- To seek opportunities and flexibility to optimize mitigation strategies such as the use of alternative mitigation, ecosystem approach etc..
- To consider pilot partnering initiatives to improve the linkage between the transportation planning process and consideration of the environment.
- To make full use of interagency training opportunities.
- To encourage the establishment of a conflict resolution process with appropriate time lines.

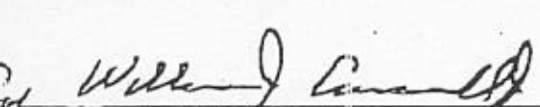
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A. George Ostensen  
Director, Midwest Resource Center  
Federal Highway Administration

  
Major General Phillip Anderson  
Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Mississippi Valley Division

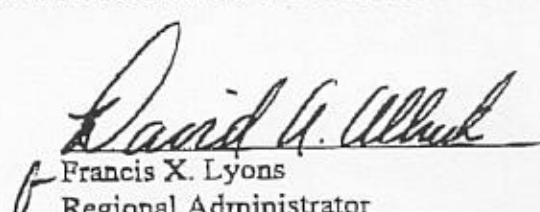
  
Brigadier General Robert H. Griffin  
Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Great Lakes and Ohio River Division

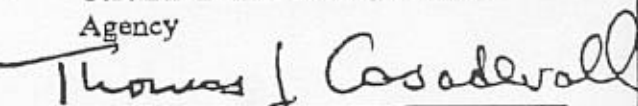
  
Rear Admiral James D. Hull  
Commander, Ninth Coast Guard District

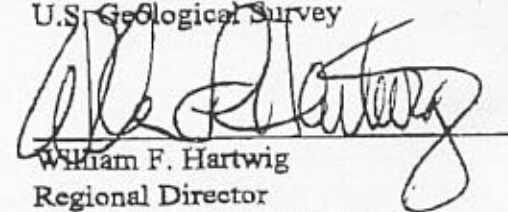
  
Bonnie A. McGregor  
Eastern Regional Director  
U.S. Geological Survey

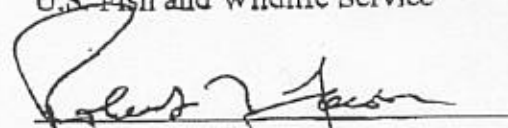
  
Rear Admiral Paul J. Pluta  
Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District

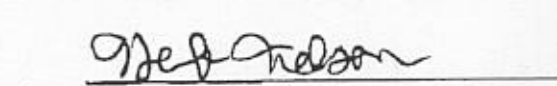
  
Charles Whitmore  
Regional Conservationist, Midwest Regional Office  
Natural Resources Conservation Service

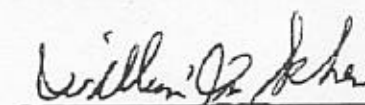
  
Francis X. Lyons  
Regional Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection  
Agency

  
Thomas J. Casadevall  
Central Regional Director  
U.S. Geological Survey

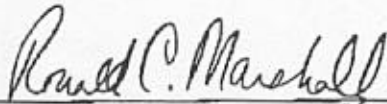
  
William F. Hartwig  
Regional Director  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

  
Robert T. Jacobs  
Regional Forester, Eastern Region  
USDA, Forest Service

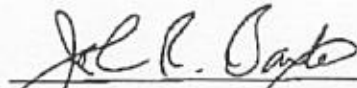
  
For Lawrence Morrin  
Regional Director, Midwest Region  
Bureau of Indian Affairs

  
William W. Schenk  
Director, Midwest Region  
National Park Service

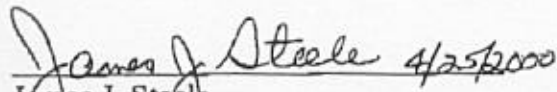
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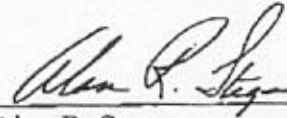
Ronald C. Marshall 7/25/00  
Division Administrator  
Illinois Division  
Federal Highway Administration



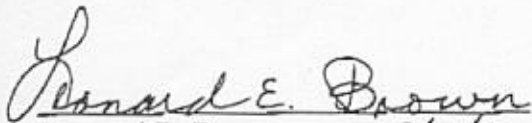
John R. Baxter  
Division Administrator  
Indiana Division  
Federal Highway Administration



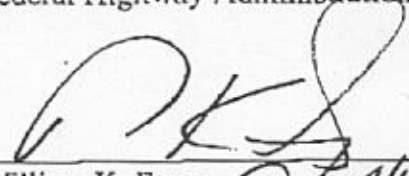
James J. Steele 4/25/2000  
Division Administrator  
Michigan Division  
Federal Highway Administration



Alan R. Steger 5/22/00  
Division Administrator  
Minnesota Division  
Federal Highway Administration




Leonard E. Brown 7/21/2000  
Division Administrator  
Ohio Division  
Federal Highway Administration




William K. Fung 4/11/00  
Division Administrator  
Wisconsin Division  
Federal Highway Administration

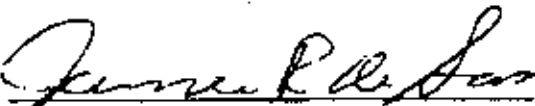
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Kirk Brown, Secretary  
Illinois Department of Transportation


  
Thomas V. Skinner, Director  
Illinois Environmental Protection  
Agency

  
Christine M. Klika, Commissioner  
Indiana Department of Transportation

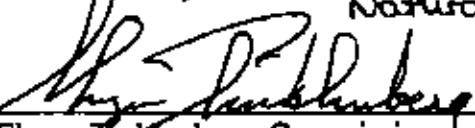
  
Lawrence D. Macklin  
Executive Director  
Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources

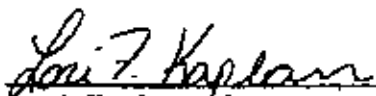
  
James De Sana, Director  
Michigan Department of Transportation

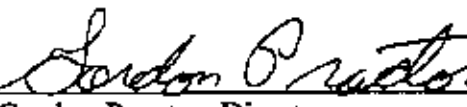
  
Russell J. Harding, Director  
Michigan Department of  
Environmental Quality

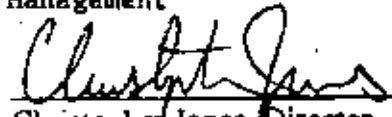
  
Allen Garber, Commissioner  
Minnesota Department of Transportation  
Natural Resources

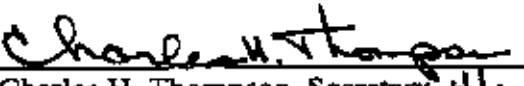
  
Karen Studders, Commissioner  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency


  
Elwyn Finklenberg, Commissioner  
Minnesota Department of Transportation

  
Lori Kaplan, Commissioner  
Indiana Department of Environmental  
Management

  
Gordon Proctor, Director  
Ohio Department of Transportation

  
Christopher Jones, Director  
Ohio Environmental Protection  
Agency

  
Charles H. Thompson, Secretary 4/10/00  
Wisconsin Department of Transportation

  
George E. Meyer, Secretary 4/18/00  
Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources